

Applicant: P.M. Sadler
U.S.S.N. : 10/606,469
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
Page 10 of 12

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and requests reconsideration of the subject application based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-2, 4-16 and 21-25 are pending in the subject application. Claims 3 and 17-20 were previously canceled.

Claims 1-2, 4-16 and 21-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 and/or 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner did indicate that claims 1-2, 4-16 and 21-23 would be allowable if appropriately re-written in independent form and so as to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections.

Claims 1 and 21 were amended to only address the Examiner's non-art based rejections.

Claim 24 was amended to more clearly describe the relationship of the features.

Claim 25 was amended so as to include the limitations of claim 7 as per the Examiner's observation.

The amendments to the claims are supported by the originally filed disclosure.

35 U.S.C. 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH REJECTIONS

Claims 1-2, 4-16 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 on the grounds that there are antecedent basis, indefiniteness and/or vagueness concerns with the identified claims. The Office Action further provides that claims 2, 4-16 and 22-23 stand rejected because of their dependency from a rejected base claim with an identified concern. The following addresses the

Applicant: P.M. Sadler
U.S.S.N. : 10/606,469
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
Page 11 of 12

rejections provided by the Examiner.

As provide above, claims 1 and 21 were amended to address the non-art concerns specifically identified by the Examiner. Applicant thus believes that the areas of rejection have been identified and addressed in the foregoing amendment.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 4-16 and 21-23 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 and, as such, are in a condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §103 REJECTIONS

Claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over James [USP 3,603,664] in view of Braymer [USP 2,753,760]. Applicant respectfully traverses as discussed below. Because claims were amended in the instant amendment, the following discussion refers to the language of the amended claims. However, only those amended features specifically relied upon to distinguish the claimed invention from the cited prior art shall be considered as being made to overcome the cited reference.

The above-referenced Office Action notes that claim 25 did not include the limitations of claim 7. As the Examiner had previously indicated that claim 7 included allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that claim 25 is allowable.

Claim 24 was amended so as to more clearly relate the relationship of the features. It is respectfully submitted that such a structure is not shown, taught or suggested by the combination of references.

It is respectfully submitted that for the foregoing reasons, claims 24 and 25 are patentable

Applicant: P.M. Sadler
U.S.S.N. : 10/606,469
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
Page 12 of 12

over the cited reference(s) and thus satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 103. As such, these claims are allowable.

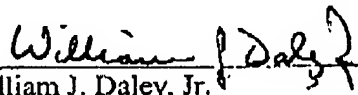
It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in a condition for allowance.
Early and favorable action is requested.

Applicant believes that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Response. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, LLP

Date: December 20, 2005

By:


William J. Daley, Jr.
(Reg. No. 35,487)
P.O. Box 9169
Boston, MA 02209
(617) 439- 4444

Bos2 572809